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571
is to provide women with an excuse for visiting each other, and that it has extended [404]
their social life.

There are less than a dozen battery-operated radios in the village, and most of [574]
them have been purchased since 1944. There are also about 44 spring-driven [403]
phonographs. [405]

DIET

As in rural Mexico as a whole, the basic diet of the people of Tepoztlán consists 262
of corn, beans, and chile. Squash, which was reported by Redfield to be an im- [171]
portant element in the food complex of Tepoztlán, is not part of the regular daily
diet and is eaten only a few months of the year. The proportion of corn, beans, and
chile in the diet varies sharply from family to family and depends upon the season,
income, and food habits of the family. The consumption of corn, which is the
major food staple, ranges from 10 per cent to as much as 70 per cent of the family [735]
diet. In general, the poorer the family, the higher the proportion of corn, beans, and
chile in the diet.

Yellow corn is most commonly used in Tepoztlán, but blue and white corn [243]
is also locally grown and used. Corn is most frequently eaten in the form of
tortillas and occasionally in the form of *atole* (gruel). Tamales made of corn dough
are eaten at certain fiestas; corn *pozole* and corn *pinole* are known but are not
characteristic foods in this village. The preparation of the corn dough or *nixtamal* [252]
with lime is the same in Tepoztlán as in other parts of Mexico. There is a wide
variety of beans in Tepoztlán, but the most commonly eaten are red kidney beans
cooked with lard, chile, and sometimes tomato and onion. Green chile, ground with [263]
onion and tomato, is prepared daily as a sauce to be eaten with tortilla and what-
ever other foods are served. *Chile pasilla*, a large dried red chile, is more expensive
and is generally reserved for use in the fiesta *mole* sauce.

The basic diet is supplemented by many other foods which are either locally cul-
tivated, gathered wild, or purchased in the stores and market place. Among the
foods used in Tepoztlán are the following:

zapote	beans	honey
banana	avocado	spices
orange	hog plum	herbs
lemon, lime	*chirimoya*	beef
grapefruit	*mameys*	pork
chayote	papaya	chicken
manzanillos	mango	turkey
tomato	squash	milk
sugar cane	peanuts	eggs
pitos	coffee	cheese
acacia seeds	prickly pear	clotted cream

The fields, forests, and mountain sides provide many free foods the year round. [222]
There are several varieties of wild edible greens, which are important in that they [244]

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two tables and the other with three. Gambling has not developed to any marked degree, and consists of small occasional bets. Despite the pessimistic evaluations of the older people there is no evidence that the presence of the poolrooms has encouraged vice or has helped to develop any new bad habits. Rather it seems to have provided a harmless and much needed diversion for the young men.

Shortly after the road was built, a man from Mexico City attempted to establish a cabaret in Tepoztlán providing "hostesses," dancing, and drinking. The boys and young men responded with vigor, using such desperate methods as stealing from their parents or selling chickens to raise the necessary money. The adults were aroused and drove out the owner and his staff and have managed to prevent any such new establishments. At the present time there are two *cantinas* for drinking purposes only. Before 1926 the men of the village drank punch, pure alcohol, and *mezcal*. Since the road there has been an increase in beer and *tequila* drinking, and the "Cuba Libre" has been introduced.

Tepoztecans have always been strong drinkers, but there are fewer habitual drunkards here than in some of the surrounding villages. From 1935 to 1938 there was more drinking than there is today because alcohol was much cheaper. Within the last few years, alcohol has risen in price from 40 centavos to 5 pesos per liter. The prohibitive cost of alcohol has been responsible, in part, for the return to the use of pulque. In 1942 a *pulquería* was opened in the plaza. "Soft" drinks such as Coca-Cola, lemonade, and other carbonated drinks are also sold in the village.

In 1939, moving pictures were shown for the first time. Movie equipment was installed in the school and there were nightly performances. After one month the entrepreneur moved out because of the small attendance. Since then, there have been two or three other unsuccessful attempts. To most Tepoztecans the admission charge of 30 to 50 centavos is prohibitive.

From time to time a puppet show reaches Tepoztlán and runs for about a week. This, together with several school plays each year, comprises the theatrical entertainment. In 1943, there were no radios in Tepoztlán; their costliness and the absence of electricity ruled them out.[18] However, there are 44 victrolas in the village. Thirty of these belong to families in the three larger barrios and the others are distributed in each of the smaller ones.

In the past two years the church has endeavored to take a more active part in providing leisure-time activities for Tepoztecans. The Acción Católica has been greatly strengthened and its membership extended. Different age groups within it have separate meetings and elect officers. The activities include singing, presenting religious pageants and plays, attending funerals, celebrating saints' days, and receiving instruction in various subjects, both religious and secular. It also provides religious reading matter and organizes religious pilgrimages. Money-raising activities continue throughout the year through collections, *kermeses*, and even public dances, although the Acción has forbidden its female members to dance. Once or

[18] In 1948, several families owned battery-operated radios and some people were regular listeners to dramatic and humorous programs originating in Mexico City.